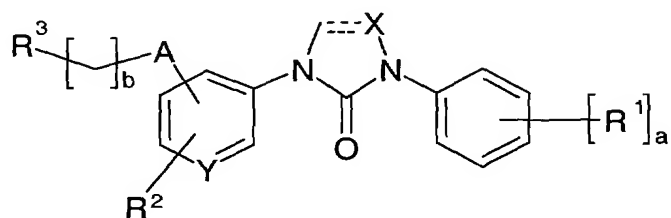


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

a is 0, 1, 2, or 3 [~~4 or 5~~];

b is 1, 2 or 3;

Y is nitrogen or carbon;

A is oxygen, nitrogen [~~-,CONH-,NHCO-~~] or together with R² forms a benzoxazolone group;

R¹ is halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, hydroxy, amino, mono- or di-C₁₋₆alkylamino, nitro, CN, CF₃ [~~;~~] or OCF₃ [~~-,aryl-,arylC₁₋₆alkyl-,arylC₁₋₆alkyloxy or arylC₁₋₆alkylthio~~];

R² is hydrogen, halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, haloC₁₋₆alkyl or haloC₁₋₆alkoxy;

R³ is:

(i) -NR⁴R⁵ where R⁴ and R⁵ are independently hydrogen [~~;~~] or C₁₋₆alkyl [~~or aryl C₁₋₆alkyl~~]; or

(ii) an optionally substituted N-linked heterocycle; or

(iii) an optionally substituted C-linked heterocycle;

wherein said optionally substituted N-linked or C-linked heterocycle is pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, imidazolidinyl, thiomorpholinyl, piperidinyl or azepanyl;

==== is a single bond or a double bond;

X is CH₂ or C=O $\left[\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right) \right]$ when --- is a single bond $\left[\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right) \right]$ or X is CH $\left[\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right) \right]$ when --- is a double bond $\left[\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right) \right]$.

2. (Original): A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein a is 1 or 2.

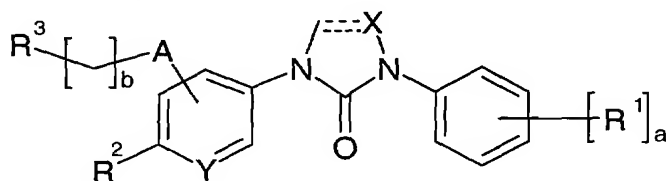
3. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein R¹ is halogen.

4. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein R¹ is at the 3 position or the 4 position.

5. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein X is CH₂ and --- represents a single bond or X is CH and --- represents a double bond.

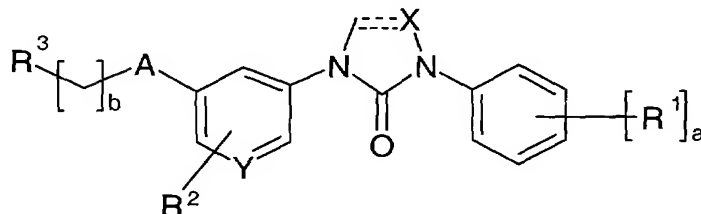
6. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein Y is carbon.

7. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~, ~~wherein R² is at the following position~~ having the formula:



8. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~, wherein R² is C₁₋₆alkoxy.

9. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 8,~~
~~wherein A is at the following position~~ having the formula:



10. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 9,~~
wherein A is oxygen.

11. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 10,~~
wherein b is 2.

12. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 11,~~
wherein R³ is N-linked heterocycle or ~~[[diC₁₋₆alkylamine]]~~ diC₁₋₆alkylamino.

13. (Currently amended): A compound as claimed in claim 1, which is:

1-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-morpholin-4-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(4-Methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(4-Methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-morpholin-4-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(2-Chloro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one

1-[4-Methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-3-phenyl-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-[3-(2-Dimethylamino-ethoxy)-4-methoxy-phenyl]-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-{4-methoxy-3[(1S,4S)-2-(2-oxa-5-aza-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-morpholin-4-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-[3-(2-dimethylamino-ethoxy)-4-methoxy-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-[6-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-pyridin-3-yl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-[4-Bromo-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-3-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(2,3-Dichloro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazolidin-2-one;

1-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-1,3-dihydroimidazol-2-one;

1-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-1,3-dihydroimidazol-2-one;

1-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazol-2-one;

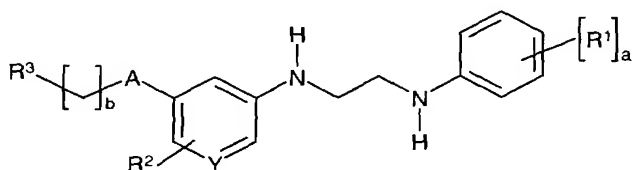
3-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-1-[4-methoxy-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-imidazol-2,4-dione;

5-[3-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-imidazolidin-1-yl]-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethyl)-3H-benzoxazol-2-one[$[\text{;}]_1$];

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Currently amended): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which process comprises:

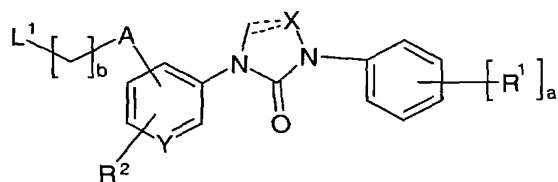
a) the cyclisation of a compound of formula (II)



(II)

in which R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , A, Y, a and b are defined in formula (I); or

b) the coupling of a compound of formula (III):



(III)

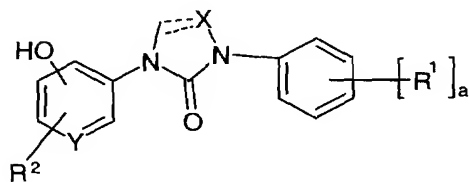
in which R^1 , R^2 , A, X, Y, a and b are defined in formula (I) and L^1 is a leaving group, with a compound of formula (IV):



(IV)

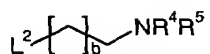
in which R^4 and R^5 are defined in formula (I); or

c) the coupling of a compound of formula (V)



(V)

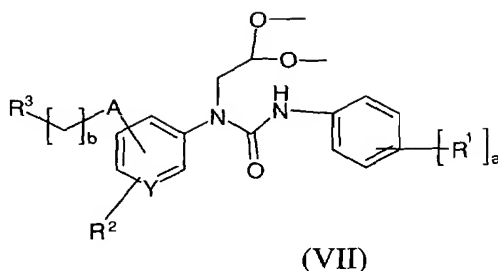
in which R^1 , R^2 , X, Y and a are defined in formula (I), with a compound of formula (VI):



(VI)

in which R^4 , R^5 and b are defined in formula (I) and L^2 is a leaving group or hydroxy; or

d) the cyclisation of a compound of formula (VII):



in which R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , Y, A, a and b are defined in formula (I);

optionally followed by:

- removing any protecting groups; and/or
- converting a compound of formula (I) so formed into another compound of formula (I); and/or
- forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

15. (Currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1-13~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

16. (Currently amended): A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition as defined in claim 15, the process comprising mixing ~~[[a]]~~ the compound as defined in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1-13~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

Claims 17-19 (Canceled).

20. (Currently amended): A method of treatment of a CNS disorder in mammals, comprising administering to the sufferer a therapeutically ~~[[safe and effective]]~~ amount of ~~[[a]]~~ the compound as defined in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1-13 or a composition as defined in claim 15~~.

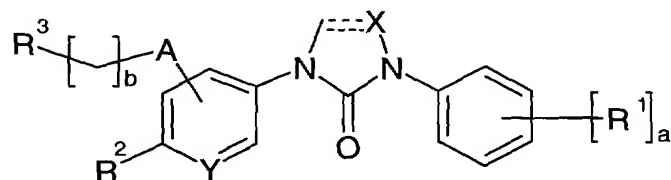
21. (Currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 20, ~~wherein~~ wherein the CNS disorder is selected from depression and~~[[or]]~~ anxiety.

Claimed 22-23 (Canceled).

24. (New): A method of treatment of a CNS disorder in mammals, comprising administering to the sufferer a therapeutically amount of the composition as defined in claim 15.

25. (New): A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein: a is 1 or 2; b is 2; Y is carbon; A is oxygen; R^1 is halogen; R^2 is C_{1-6} alkoxy; R^3 is morpholinyl, piperidinyl, or diC_{1-6} alkylamino; $\text{---}\text{X}\text{---}$ is a single bond or a double bond; X is CH_2 when $\text{---}\text{X}\text{---}$ is a single bond or X is CH when $\text{---}\text{X}\text{---}$ is a double bond.

26. (New): A compound as claimed in claim 25 having the formula:



27. (New): A compound as claimed in claim 25 having the formula:

